

U.S. Patent Application 10/781,172
Response of February 23, 2006

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An adjustable-tone deer call device comprising:
 - a barrel assembly comprising an outside barrel and a small inside barrel, the outside barrel having an inlet end adapted to serve as a mouthpiece, and having an outlet end for air, and the small inside barrel having an open proximal end secured inside the outlet end of said outside barrel and a distal end for air to exit;
 - a reed mounted for vibration within said barrel assembly, said reed having a proximal tree end toward the inlet end of said outside barrel, the reed generating a sound of a selected pitch when air passes through the small inside barrel;
 - a reed holder supporting the reed at its distal end within said barrel assembly, and having sidewalls and a bottom, together forming along with the reed, an elongated air flow channel; and
 - a metal slider mounted for longitudinal movement within said outside barrel and atop the small inside barrel, the slider being adapted to clamp the reed at a line of contact to the reed holder at a range of positions selectable by axially sliding the metal slider, thereby confining the length of the vibrating reed to a predetermined dimension and producing sound of a selected pitch[.]; wherein the metal slider is a strip of metal having at least the following folds:
 - a first fold forming a user-graspable upstanding movable tab, the movable tab extending outside of the outside barrel;
 - a second fold at an acute angle forming the beginning of said metal slider;
 - and
 - a third fold which defines the line of contact with the reed.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The deer call device of Claim 1 wherein the metal slider is of brass.

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4. (Currently amended) The deer call device of Claim 1, further comprising an extension hose adapted to be expanded and contracted ~~accordion-like~~ and having a first end and a second end, the first end being removably secured in communication with the distal end of the small inside barrel, whereby the sound may be adjusted by expanding or contracting the extension hose for desired resonance.

5. (Original) The deer call device of Claim 1 wherein said metal slider is adapted to be clamped against said reed at any of an infinite number of locations, producing any of an infinite number of sound pitches within a range.

6. (Original) The deer call device of Claim 1 further comprising a lanyard secured to the barrel assembly.

7. (Original) A method for a user to generate sounds similar to sounds of a deer, comprising the steps of:

providing a deer call of Claim 1, manually moving the tone-adjusting metal slider to set the position of the line of contact with the reed that adjusts the vibrating length of the reed to produce a sound of a desired pitch and; passing air through the deer call, whereby said reed vibrates and creates a sound of the desired pitch.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein the step of passing air through the deer call is performed by the user forcing air into the inlet end of the barrel assembly.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein the step of passing air through the deer call is performed by the user drawing air from the distal end of the barrel assembly.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 9, wherein the air is drawn by placing the user's mouth at the outlet end of the barrel assembly and inhaling.

11. (Original) A method for a user to generate sounds similar to sounds of deer, comprising the steps of:

providing a deer call device of Claim 4;

manually moving the metal slider to the position that adjusts the vibrating

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length of the reed to produce a sound of a desired pitch;
adjusting the extension hose to provide a desired amount of resonance; and
forcing air through the inlet end of the barrel assembly, whereby the reed
vibrates and emits a sound of the desired pitch.

12. (Original) A method for a user to generate sounds similar to sounds of deer, comprising the steps of:
providing a deer call device of Claim 4;
manually moving the metal slider to the position that adjusts the vibrating length of the reed to produce a sound of a desired pitch;
adjusting the extension hose to provide a desired amount of resonance; and
drawing air from the distal end of the barrel assembly, whereby the reed vibrates and emits a sound of the desired pitch.
13. (Original) The method of Claim 12, wherein the desired pitch is that of a high-pitched fawn bleat, a doe bawl, a tending grunt, a trail grunt, or a rutting grunt.